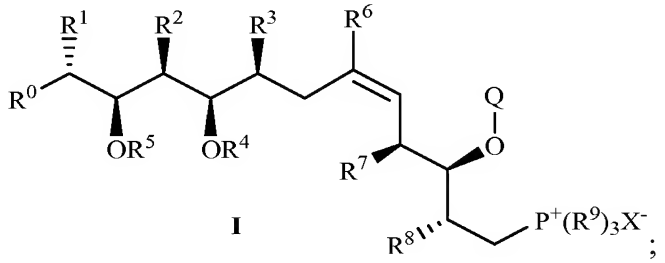
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A process for preparing a compound of formula I:



I

wherein:

R^0 is C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $(CH_2)_r(C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl), $(CH_2)_r$(aryl) or $(CH_2)_r$(heterocycle), wherein r is selected from 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4;

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are independently H or C_{1-10} alkyl;

R^4 is an acid labile hydroxyl protecting group;

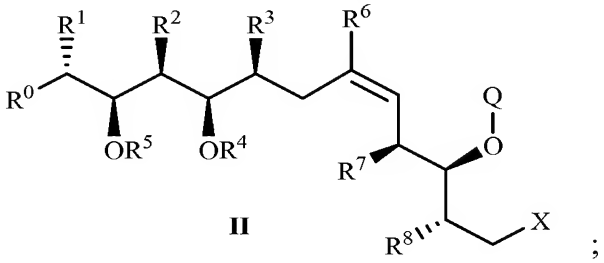
R^5 is an oxidatively labile hydroxyl protecting group;

each R^9 is independently C_{6-14} aryl;

Q is H or an acid labile hydroxyl protecting group wherein the hydroxyl protecting group has a mass of 135 Daltons or less and is unbranched at the atom bonded to the oxygen of the hydroxyl group being protected; and

X is halogen;

comprising contacting a compound of formula II:



II

wherein:

R^0 is C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $(CH_2)_r(C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl), $(CH_2)_r$(aryl) or $(CH_2)_r$(heterocycle), wherein r is selected from 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4;

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are independently H or C_{1-10} alkyl;

R^4 is an acid labile hydroxyl protecting group;

R^5 is an oxidatively labile hydroxyl protecting group;

Q is H or an acid labile hydroxyl protecting group wherein the hydroxyl protecting group has a mass of 135 Daltons or less and is unbranched at the atom bonded to the oxygen of the hydroxyl group being protected; and

X is halogen;

at a pressure of less than about 10,000 psi with a phosphine of formula $P(R^9)_3$ wherein each R^9 is independently C_{6-14} aryl;

for a time and under conditions sufficient to prepare the compound of formula I.

2. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein Q is methoxymethyl, methylthiomethyl, 2-methoxyethoxymethyl, acetyl, benzyloxymethyl, 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethoxymethyl or allyl.

3. (Original) A process according to claim 2 wherein Q is methoxymethyl.

4. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein the X moiety of the compound of formula II is iodo.

5. (Original) A process according to claim 1 further comprising a base.

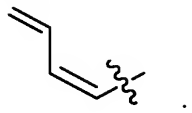
6. (Original) A process according to claim 5 wherein the base is non-nucleophilic.

7. (Original) A process according to claim 6 wherein the base is isopropyldiethylamine.

8. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein the reaction is carried out at essentially atmospheric pressure.

9. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein R^0 is alkenyl.

10. (Original) A process according to claim 9 wherein R^0 is:



11. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are independently H or C_{1-3} alkyl.

12. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein R^1, R^2, R^7 and R^8 are methyl and R^3 and R^6 are each independently H or methyl.

13. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are methyl.

14. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^7 and R^8 are methyl and R^6 is H.

15. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein the reaction temperature is in the range of about 0 to about 200°C.

16. (Original) A process according to claim 15 wherein the reaction temperature is in the range of about 20 to about 140°C.

17. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein the reaction pressure is in the range from about ambient to about 10,000 psi.

18. (Original) A process according to claim 17 wherein the reaction pressure is essentially ambient.

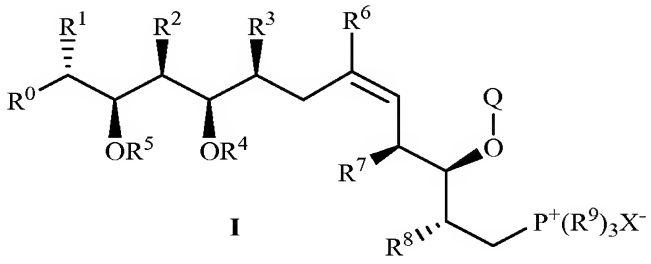
19. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein at least one of R^9 is phenyl.

20. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein R^5 is *para*-methoxybenzyl.

21. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein R^4 is $(R^{16})_3Si$-, and wherein each R^{16} is independently C_{1-6} alkyl.

22. (Original) A process according to claim 21 wherein R^4 is tert-butyldimethylsilyl.

23. (Original) A compound of the formula I:



I ;

wherein:

R^0 is C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $(CH_2)_r(C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl), $(CH_2)_r$(aryl) or $(CH_2)_r$(heterocycle), wherein r is selected from 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4;

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are independently H or C_{1-10} alkyl;

R^4 is an acid labile hydroxyl protecting group;

R^5 is an oxidatively labile hydroxyl protecting group;

each R^9 is independently C_{6-14} aryl;

Q is H or an acid labile hydroxyl protecting group wherein the hydroxyl protecting group has a mass of 135 Daltons or less and is unbranched at the atom bonded to the oxygen of the hydroxyl group being protected; and

X is halogen.

24-33. (Canceled)